

As per available information, the SERCs of 19 States have issued open access regulations in distribution and 15 SERCs have also specified the method of open access surcharge. So far, 17 applications for grant of open access have been approved by the respective SERC in 6 States.

The Electricity Act also provides for grant of license by the Appropriate Commission to two or more persons for distribution of electricity through their own distribution system within the same area, subject to the compliance with the additional requirements relating to the capital adequacy, credit-worthiness, or code of conduct prescribed by the Central Government. Central Government has already notified the additional requirements in this regard.

Under the Act, the distribution licensee is required to establish a forum for redressal of grievances of the consumers. Any consumer, who is aggrieved by non-redressal of his grievances may make a representation for representation for redressal to an authority known as Ombudsman.

#### **Dilution of stake in public sector power companies**

496. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Government's plan to reduce 24 per cent stake in some public sector power companies through IPOs;

(b) the total amount estimated to garner through IPOs;

(c) how the power companies are planning to utilize the above amount, apart from expanding their infrastructure; and

(d) whether his Ministry has taken the approval from the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs for dilution of 24 per cent equity in power PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (d) Government has approved the proposals of Power Finance Corporation (PFC), Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) seeking permission for Initial Public Officer (IPO).

(b) The amount that would be garnered through the IPO would depend upon assessment by the professional agencies for which the necessary

work is yet to begin. Therefore, it is too early to give an estimate in this regard.

(c) Funds collected through the Initial Public offering (IPO) will be used by the Public Sector Undertakings for their business development and investment in expanding their areas of activities.

### **Revamp/modernization of units by NTPC**

497. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MISS PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC proposes to invest huge money to revamp/modernize their units to generate additional power during the 11th and 12th Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of modernizations, that are proposed to be effected in their units in Orissa; and

(d) how far this additional power would help bridge the gap between the demand and supply of power in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Renovation & Modernization (R&M) activities of Power Plants are invariably undertaken at the completion of 1 lakh and 2 lakh hours of operation as per policy guidelines of Central Electricity Authority (CEA). Accordingly, NTPC has already undertaken R&M activities of its various power stations and also plans to undertake R&M activities of its various power stations during 11th & 12th Five year plan which are as under:

#### **R&M activities during 11th Plan**

Stations	Type of Units	Total Number of Units	Total Capacity under R&M	Estimated Investment (Rs. Cr.)
Singrauli, Korba, Ramagundam, Badarpur, Dadri, Kahalgaon	Coal Based (200/210 MW)	21	4300 MW	2950